

## WCFC Meeting May 15, 2013 Wenatchee Public Services Center 1350 McKittrick Street Wenatchee, Washington

**Members Attending**: Joe Scorcio, Sheila Gray, Brian Cramer, Garth Davis, Ara Erickson, Terry Flatley, David Nelson, Lisa Ciecko, Kathy Sheehan, Jim Freed, Sandy Salisbury, Richard Emery, Sarah Foster, David Erickson, Micki McNaughton

Absent: Kathy Wolf

Guests: Linden Lampman, Paula Dinias

## **Action Items:**

- 1. Kathy Wolf the Council's letter of support to the USFS Research Station was postponed until a new director is in place due to previous director retiring. A copy of the letter should also be sent to Peg Polichio, Director of State and Private Forestry for USFS Region 6.
- 23 Meeting convened at 9:15 AM.

Wenatchee Mayor Kuntz welcomed the Council and discussed many projects and issues facing the Wenatchee Valley and the City. Dave Erickson, City of Wenatchee Parks and Recreation Director, presented building information and emergency procedures for the Public Service Center.

Council reviewed the proposed agenda, and made no changes. Sandy Salisbury moved to approve the minutes from the February 13, 2013, meeting; Dave Nelson seconded. Motion carried. Newly appointed Council member Richard Emery introduced himself and was welcomed to the Council.

 Urban Forestry Program Update: Sarah Foster and Linden Lampman

- Nikkole Hughes, research intern for the proposed wood waste utilization project, working with Linden Lampman starting in June.
- DNR Resource Protection Division leadership changes: Albert Kassel has been appointed as Division Manager, replacing Joe Shramek.
- Grants
  - o Ten Community Forestry Assistance grants have been awarded and contracts are being completed. Check UCF website for grantees and project listing.
  - o Inventory grants were awarded to 9 communities for 2013. The inventory work will be done by Community Forestry Consultants this summer.

- Tree City USA Tree Planting grants are being reviewed on a rolling basis and will
  continue to be awarded as funding allows through the next couple of months. Four
  grants have been awarded so far. Applications are due for consideration the last
  Thursday of each month.
- Linden Lampman reported on Arbor Day activities. She thanked Terry Flatley, Garth Davis, Brian Cramer, Sheila Gray, Joe Scorcio, Sarah Foster and Micki McNaughton for participating in community Arbor Day events on behalf of the Council and the UCF program.
- Micki McNaughton reported on Urban Forestry Restoration Project activities, including recent crew locations and the crews' participation in nursery tours. Micki will coordinate a meeting with the UFRP crew based in Issaquah for the September WCFC meeting, along with a tour of the Park Pointe UFRP project site.
- Garth Davis gave an update on his urban forestry work in Spokane and adjacent counties.
   Garth has been coordinating a lot of Firewise Community projects. He noted that it is a great way to show how the related programs such as Urban Forestry and Firewise can come together to make a difference.

Forest Service Update: Kathy Sheehan

Preparing the Federal budget is always complex and convoluted. With continuing resolutions, the sequester rules and other complications; the Federal budget still hasn't been finalized. Kathy Sheehan anticipates that the final numbers will arrive in the next few days. Fiscal Year 13 (FY13) is about the same as last year for the US Forest Service, maybe 5% down, which is better than most federal agencies. FY14 will hopefully remain about the same.

Council Roles and Duties work session: Joe Scorcio

Joe Scorcio created a chart to track the work session results. Column headers were:

- Purpose and Duty
- Council Position or Role
- DNR Role

- Action or Steps
- Measurement or performance
- Deliverables (YTD)

Small groups were formed to discuss each column header and content ideas after lunch.

Working Lunch - Award Presentation: The Urban Forestry Stewardship Award was presented to the Greater Wenatchee Arbor Day Association. Scott Ballard, Bill Sanborn, Bonnie Orr and Nina Hall were present to accept the award on behalf of the group. Joe Scorcio described the history of the Council and Ara Erickson provided the background of the Awards program. The Greater Wenatchee Arbor Day Association is a volunteer organization that has distributed over 150,000 trees in the valley over the past 25 years. A great group being recognized for great work!

The Council discussed structuring meetings to be more focused on particular urban forestry topics. One meeting early in the year would provide an opportunity for each Council member to bring questions and concerns from the organization(s) they represent in order to compile potential meeting topics. An individual Council member or group would research a topic chosen at the previous meeting and present results and information at the following meeting. This would

set the Council's annual work plan and provide a mechanism for represented organizations' 1 2 feedback. 3 4 Meeting discussions would revolve around the selected topic or issue, including:

5 Providing outreach and education on the topic to other organizations and groups, 6

- Developing products to enhance outreach,
- Writing an article for Tree Link,
- Providing information to the organizations Council members represent.

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11 Each meeting would be a working session. Each individual or group responsible for a topic 12 would be involved in setting agenda and facilitating discussion at the meeting at which they

- present. It was suggested that this concept be trialed at the November 12 meeting in Seattle. 13
- 14 Another option may be to launch at the annual meeting after discussions with State Forester and
- 15 Commissioner. Question for further discussion: How do we remain flexible enough to factor in
- 16 an emerging situation?

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- 18 Meeting arrangement proposal:
  - Set topic at meeting
- Assign/volunteer research individual/workgroup 20
- Set deadlines/confirm 21
- 22 • Develop agenda
- 23 • Meeting presentation & discussion
- 24 • Repeat at end of the meeting
- 25 September meeting – everyone bring topic ideas and suggestions for first topic discussion at the 26 November meeting.

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28 Questions for further discussion: Are these programmatic based (how do we get more Tree Cities 29 USA? Tree Campuses?), or more general urban forestry issues (forest health? climate change?).

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- 31 Topics suggested by Council:
  - Creating and sustaining partnerships
- 33 • Working within legal constraints and getting people to plant more trees (either because 34 they have to or because they want to)
  - Stormwater management and trees
  - Perception that trees cause more problems
- 37 • Trees and business areas
- 38 • Trees and public rights-of-way
- 39 • Council limits (limitations?)
- 40 • How do we still plant trees
- Strategic vision for UCF 41
- 42 • How does Council "advocate"?
- How to add Tree Cities/Tree Campuses 43
- 44 New topics/"bubbles"

1 • How do we get a pile of money to do UF work? 2 • Does UCF meet state needs? 3 • Forest Health 4 Dogs and trees 5 • Does the Council/UCF Program meet the state's needs? 6 • Tree care education consortiums (Community Canopy as an example) 7 • Pervious surfaces/low impact development (Puvallup WSU experiments) 8 Ideas for sharing lists: 9 • Google docs 10 • Google spreadsheet. • Mass email to Council members 11 12 13 Pilot topic for September 11 meeting: How to increase Tree City USA communities 14 Committee to coordinate: UCF staff (past TCUSA/communities on the bubble/requirements/etc) 15 Facilitator: Lisa Ciecko (set facilitation guidelines) Research & Discussion Panel: Richard Emery, Dave Erickson, Terry Flatley 16 17 18 Tentative Timeline: 19 May-September • Discover topics of wide UF interest 20 21 • Talk to represented organization(s) for input 22 • Compile topic list on Google docs 23 September meeting 24 Test Topic #1 – How to Increase the number of Tree Cities USA in Washington 25 • Discuss proposed topics list 26 • Choose topic for November 13 meeting 27 • Assign Councilmember as leader for topic facilitation and research 28 29 November Test topic #2 30 31 • Draft annual program, including meeting dates 32 • Select and prioritize topics for the year from compiled list 33 • Choose topic for February 2014 34 • Assign Councilmember as leader for topic facilitation and research 35 36 **February** 37 Evaluate results of the first two presentation/discussion meetings • 2014 Topic #1 (education or light topic) 38 39 • Choose topic for May 2014 40 • Assign Councilmember as leader for topic facilitation and research 41

42 Draft agenda for next Council meeting, September 11, 2013, in Issaquah

2 • Committee meetings • Green Kent Stewards award (Ara Erickson) 3 4 • UFRP report from local project partner City of Issaquah and site tour 5 • Sandy Salisbury will bring coffee! • Micki McNaughton will work with local host Alan Haywood to organize and coordinate 6 7 meeting location. 8 Councilmember announcements: 9 Sheila Gray reported that she has sent Tree Campus USA information to Toyota dealerships and all community colleges to raise awareness of the program. 10 Richard Emery reported that Mukilteo is working on a tree pruning ordinance. 11 12 13 Joe Scorcio thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication. 14

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• Staff updates

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.